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Booth Brothers and Hurricane Isle Granite Company Records, 1909

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ArchivesSpace

Booth Brothers and Hurricane Isle Granite Company Records

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on August 08, 2017.

Finding aid written in English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department

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University of Maine

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Summary Information

Repository:	Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department
Creator:	Booth Brothers and Hurricane Isle Granite Company (Hurricane Island, Me.)
Title:	Booth Brothers and Hurricane Isle Granite Company Records
ID:	SpC MS 0063
Date:	1909, undated
Date [bulk]:	undated (bulk)
Physical Description:	1.2 cubic feet (2 boxes)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The collection contains records of Booth Brothers and Hurricane Isle Granite Company of Hurricane Island, Maine.

Preferred Citation

Booth Brothers and Hurricane Isle Granite Company Records, SpC MS 0063, [Box No.], [Folder No.], Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department, University of Maine, Orono, Maine

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Historical Note

The company was formed from a merger of two long-standing granite quarries at a time when the granite business was flourishing in the Penobscot Bay area of Maine. In 1870 General Davis Tillson had opened a quarry on Hurricane Island and established the Hurricane Island Granite Company. This led to the development of the island and a growth in population to meet the company's needs. The company cut and shipped granite for buildings in cities all over the country, including St. Louis, Chicago, Baltimore, Boston and Washington.

Booth Brothers had been founded by John Booth in 1870. Born in Scotland in 1839, Booth had come to New York City in 1870 and with his older brother William, established the company. With quarries in Maine and Connecticut and offices in New York City, New London, Philadelphia, and Rockland, Maine, the company produced granite for building and paving.

In 1889, Hurricane Island Granite merged with Booth Brothers, bringing together quarries a Millstone Point, Connecticut; Tenants Harbor, Maine; Seal Harbor, Hurricane Island and two quarries on Vinalhaven. The new company, Booth Brothers and Hurricane Island Granite Company, had capital stock of \$250,000. William Booth of New London was president and the company headquarters was in New York City, with the Maine office in Rockland.

The company did well for a number of years after the merger, receiving contracts to supply at least part of the granite for the Metropolitan Bank Building in New York, the New York Custom House, the terminal of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad in Chicago and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. In 1910 the management of the quarry operations on Hurricane Island changed. The Hurricane Isle Quarries Company was organized and took over the properties, business and leases of Booth Brothers and Hurricane Island Granite Company. The president and directors of the company were all relatives of General Davis Tillson including his son-in-law, daughters and grandson. Shortly thereafter, changing architectural styles and the introduction of new building materials, especially concrete, plus the costs of cutting and shipping granite, led to the demise of the granite industry on Hurricane Island. By 1915 only two families were left on the island and by 1916 the island was deserted.

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Scope and Contents of the Records

This small collection contains primarily order forms on letterhead of Booth Brothers and Hurricane Isle Granite Company. The forms are undated and do not identify the customer ordering the granite. They are arranged in numerical order by order number and seem to be from three different orders. Within each order number, the forms are arranged by section, course and number. Information on each form includes order number, cutter's name, hours spent in cutting, cost of the work, dimensions of the block, and a design drawing of each block.

The collection also contains a few miscellaneous order forms as well as receipts from 1909 for checks issued.

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Conservation Note

The collection has been re-housed in acid-free folders and boxes.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

This collection is kept at Fogler Library's offsite storage facility. One week's notice is required for retrieval.

Provenance

Donated to Maine State Museum by Robert Macdonald in 1980; donated to Special Collections Department by Maine State Museum.

Restrictions on Use

Information on literary rights available from repository.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Granite industry and trade
- Quarries and quarrying -- Maine
- Stone-cutters -- Maine
- Hurricane Island (Me. : Town)
- Order forms

- Business records

Collection Inventory

Contents of Boxes		
Title/Description	Instances	
Miscellaneous unspecified orders	Box 1	folder 1
Checks (1909) and delivery slips	Box 1	folder 2
Order forms: Order 69, Section B-R	Box 1	folder 3
Order forms: Order 69, Section B.B.-R.R.	Box 1	folder 4
Order forms: Order 83, Section 1, Course A-H	Box 1	folder 5
Order forms: Order 83, Section 1, Course R.R.-Z	Box 1	folder 6
Order forms: Order 83, Section 2, Course L-S	Box 1	folder 7
Order forms: Order 83, Section 2, Course A.A.-I.I.	Box 1	folder 8
Order forms: Order 83, Section 2, Course K.K.-R.R.	Box 1	folder 9
Order forms: Order 83, Section 2, Course S.S.-Z.Z.	Box 1	folder 10
Order forms: Order 83, Section 3, Course C.C.-Z.	Box 1	folder 11
Order forms: Order 83, Section 4, Course P, Z, A.A.-N.N.	Box 1	folder 12
Order forms: Order 83, Section 4, Course O.O.-Z.Z.	Box 1	folder 13
Order forms: Order 83, Section 5, Course A.A.-Y	Box 1	folder 14
Order forms: Order 83, Section 6, Course R.R.-Z	Box 1	folder 15
Order forms: Order 83A, Section 8, Course Z, A.A.-S.S.	Box 1	folder 16
Order forms: Order 83A, Section 9, Course B.B.-L.L.	Box 1	folder 17
Order forms: Order 83A, Section 10, Course Z, A.A.-L.L.	Box 1	folder 18
Order forms: Order 83A, Section 10, Course M.M.-V.V.	Box 1	folder 19
Order forms: Order 83A, Section 11, Course A.A.-A.B.	Box 1	folder 20
Order forms: Order 83A, Section 11, Course B.B.-I.I.	Box 1	folder 21
Order forms: Order 83A, Section 11, Course K.K.-M.M.	Box 1	folder 22
Order forms: Order 83A, Section 11, Course N.N.-R.R.	Box 1	folder 23
Order forms: Order 83A, Section 11, Course S.S.-Z.Z.	Box 2	folder 1
Order forms: Order 83A, Section 12, Course A.I.-A.W.	Box 2	folder 2
Order forms: Order 83A, Section 12, Course B.M.-C.D.	Box 2	folder 3

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